Q (CGA) No. 112

# COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (1989-90)

(EIGHTH LOK SABHA)

## TWENTY-FIRST REPORT

(*Presented on* 10 AUG 1989 )

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

*July, 1989/Asadha, 1911 (Saka)*

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Corrigenda to Twenty First Report, Committee on Government Assurances (1989-90).

(Eighth Lok Sabha)

| Page | Para | Line | Correction |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5. | 2.8 | 2 | for 'four' read 'three' |
| 6. | 2.14 | 1 | for 'four' read 'three' |
| 7. | 2.20 | 1 | for 'four' read 'three' |
| 9. | Heading | | for 'Dalli' read 'Details' |
| 23. | 49 | 2 | delete 'the' before 'assurance' |
| 28. | 65 | 4 | for 'intense' read 'interse' |
| 33. | Top right corner | | Delete 'Confidential |
| 39. | Top right corner | | Delete 'Confidential' |
| 57. | Top right corner | | Delete 'Confidential' |

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## COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES* (1989-90)

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

2. Shri L. Balaraman
3. Shri Bhadreswar Tanti
4. Shri Kadambur M. R. Janarthanan
5. Shri Bapulal Malviya
6. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
7. Shri Murlidhar Mane
8. Shri V. Krishna Rao
9. Shri Bhola Raut
10. Shri Prabhu Lal Rawat
11. Shri Baju Ban Riyan
12. Shrimati Shanti Devi
13. Shri Kamla Prasad Singh
14. Shrimati Usha Thakkar
15. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav

### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri C. K. Jain—*Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S. C. Gupta—*Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri Jyoti Prasad Jain—*Officer on Special Duty*

*The Committee was nominated by the Speaker w.e.f. June 20, 1989 *vide* para No. 2982 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part—II dated 20 June, 1989.

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances, as authorised by the Committee, do present on their behalf, this Twenty-First Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (1989-90) were constituted on June 20, 1989.

3. The Committee (1987-88) at their sitting held on 12 February, 1988 considered some of the pending assurances given during the Sixth Session of Eighth Lok Sabha.

4. The Committee (1988-89) at their sittings held on 5 April, 29 and 30 May, 1989 considered requests from the Ministries for dropping of assurances. At their sitting held on 6, July, 1989, the Committee (1989-90) considered and adopted this draft Twenty-First Report.

5. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of the Report.

6. The conclusions/observations of the Committee are contained in the succeeding chapters.

NEW DELHI ;
*July, 6*, 1989
*Asadha* 15, 1911 (*Saka*)

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR,
*Chairman,*
*Committee on Government Assurances*

## CHAPTER I

## REQUEST FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES

The Committee at their sittings held on 5 April and 29 and 30 May, 1989 considered 12 requests from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances given in reply to the following Questions :—

| Sl. No. | Question No. and date | Subject |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | USQ 1972/19.11.87 | Balladila—Dalli—Rajhara Railway line |
| 2. | SQ 291/26.11.87 | Research in Vedic Mathematics about its utility for computer calculations |
| 3. | SQ 370/21.3.88 | Regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi |
| 4. | USQ 10669/12.5.88 | Surplus Railway land in Murshidabad District |
| 5. | SQ 471/5.9.88 | Banspani—Jakhapura Railway line |
| 6. | USQ 41/2.11.88 | N.U.J demand for revision of tentative proposals made by Bachawat Wage Board |
| 7. | SQ 51/4.11.88 | Third Railway line in Bilaspur Division and doubling of Bilaspur—Katni Railway line |
| 8. | USQ 1032/17.11.88 | Recommendations made by the Central Advisory Board. |
| 9. | USQ 1398/21.11.88 | Availability of technical manpower |
| 10. | SQ 207/25.11.88 | Rail Link with Pakistan |
| 11. | SQ 224/25.11.88 | Swan Channelisation Project of Himachal Pradesh |
| 12. | USQ 3337/5.12.88 | Survey about persons below poverty line |

The details of these cases are given in Appendix-I.

1.2 In none of the cases mentioned above, the Committee were convinced of the reasons advanced by the Ministries/Departments concerned for dropping of the assurances and, therefore, decided to pursue them. The Committee regret to note the inordinate delay in the implementation of these assurances, some of which have remained unfulfilled for over a year and half as against the prescribed period of three months. The Committee are constrained to observe that instead of making sincere efforts to fulfil the pending assurances expeditiously, the Ministries/Departments approach them with the request for dropping of the assurances on unjustifiable grounds. In many a cases mentioned above, the request for dropping of the assurance was made on the ground that the implementation of the assurance was likely to take a long time or no definite time limit could be laid down for fulfilment of the assurance. The Committee need hardly point out that in such cases, instead of making a request to the Committee for dropping of the assurance, the proper course is to seek extension of time considered to be absolutely minimum necessary to implement the assurance. As recommended by the Committee in their earlier reports, the Ministries/Departments can lay a statement in part fulfilment of the assurance in cases where the conclusive action is likely to take a long time.

1.3 The Committee are also un happy to note the laxity on the part of the Ministries in seeking extensions of time for fulfilment of the assurances. Out of the 12 cases mentioned in para 1 above, in four cases no extension has been sought although the prescribed period of three months for fulfilling the assurances has expired. Further in six cases, the period upto which extensions were sought for fulfilment of the assurances has expired, but neither the assurances have been implemented nor further extensions sought for their implementation. The Committee reiterate that the pending assurances should be reviewed periodically and in cases where delays were foreseen in their fulfilment, the request for further extension of time should be made well in advance giving cogent reasons for the delay.

1.4 The Committee also find that in two cases mentioned in para 1 of the Report, the Ministries concerned instead of seeking extension upto a specified period had sought extensions of time 'till the decision is taken by the Committee on their request for dropping of the assurance'. The Committee do not favour such oblique requests and desire that the Ministries must seek extension of time for implementation of assurances for a specific period.

## CHAPTER II

## REVIEW OF SELECTED PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO SIXTH SESSION OF EIGHTH LOK SABHA

2.1 At their sitting held on 12 February, 1988, the Committee considered the following 4 pending assurances given in the Sixth Session of Eighth Lok Sabha :—

| Sl. No. | Question No. and Date | Subject |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | USQ. No. 269/18.7.86 | Re-examination of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and Gold Control Act. |
| 2. | USQ. 623/22.7.86 | All India Judicial Services |
| 3. | SQ. 86/23.7.86 | Kudal Commission on Gandhi Peace Foundation |
| 4. | U.S.Q. 724/23.7.86 | Rehabilitation of displaced tribal families. |

2.2 Out of the above mentioned assurances, the assurance at S. No. 4 has since been implemented. The observations of the Committee in respect of the reamining three assurances are given in the following paragraphs.

(i)

*Re-examination of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and Gold Control Act*

2.3 On 18 July, 1986, Sarvashri K. V. Shankara Gowda, Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil, Dr. B. L. Shailesh and Dr. Datta Samant, MPs asked the following Unstarred Question (No. 269) regarding re-examination of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and Gold Control Act :—

> "(a) whether Government have decided to reexamine the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to remove unnecessary procedural complications and to make it more reasonable and to plug the loopholes for evasion ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government have also taken a final decision to review the Gold Control Act and if so, the changes proposed to be made in the Act ?"

2.4 The then Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Janardhana Poojari) replied the above question as follows :—

"(a) and (b) Proposals for amendment of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act are being examined by the Government.

(c) The Government have appointed two working Groups, one to review the Gold Control Policy in all its aspects and other to review the Gold Control Machinery, etc. in May, 1986. The question of review of the Gold Control Act would arise only after submission of the reports of the working Groups to the Government."

2.5 The reply of the Minister was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by 17 October, 1986. The assurance, however, remained unfulfilled and the Ministry sought repeated extensions of time for implementing it. The last request for extension of time sought was upto 18 January, 1988 on the following grounds :—

"The material to fulfil the assurance is still awaited from the Department of Economic Affairs."

2.6 The Committee considered the above request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 12 February, 1988 and granted extension of time upto 18 January, 1988.

2.7 However, the assurance remained unfulfilled and Ministry sought further extensions of time. The last request for extension was upto 18 April, 1990 on the following grounds :

"The Ministry is exploring from legal angle the feasibility of carrying out amendments of certain provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1973. In other words, it is yet to be decided with the approval of the Cabinet whether amendment of

FERA is to take place at all. Once the proposals are found to be legally feasible, a draft legislation will thereafter be framed in consultation with the Department of Legal Affairs. A minimum of one year seems to be a must."

**2.8 The Committee feel deeply concerned to note that even after a lapse of four years, Government have not finalised the amendments required to be made in the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and in Gold Control Act to plug the loopholes in the Acts. The Committee desire that sincere efforts should be made by Government to implement the assurance at the earliest. The Committee also express their extreme unhappiness on the manner in which the Ministry have been making requests for time extensions for long periods, the latest being upto 18 April, 1990, which indicate very cavalier attitude and unrealistic approach to the fulfilment of the Commitment given to the House by their Minister.**

(ii)

*All India Judicial Service*

2.9 On 22 July, 1986 Shri Syed Shahabuddin, M.P. asked the following Unstarred Question (No. 623) regarding All India Judicial Service.

"(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the plea of the All India Judges Association for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service ; and

(b) if so, the present position regarding the constitution of such a service ?"

2.10 The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice (Shri H.R. Bhardwaj) gave the following reply :—

"(a) No, Sir.

(b) However, the matter is under consideration of the Government and it is not possible to indicate any definite date."

2.11 The above reply of the Minister was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by 21 October, 1986. The Ministry, however, sought repeated extensions of time to implement it. The last request for extension of time was uuto 21 April, 1988 on the followingg rounds :—

"the Government is engaged in processing the report submitted by the Law Commission regarding formation of an All India Judicial Service. It is not, however, possible to indicate the definite date by which a final decision could be taken in the matter."

2.12 The Committee at their sitting held on 12 February, 1988 considered the request of the Ministry and agreed to grant the extension of time upto 11 April, 1988 as requested.

2.13 The assurance, however, remained unimplemented and the Ministry sought further extensions of time. The last request for extension of time was upto 22 July, 1989 on the following grounds :

"The recommendations made by the Law Commission in 116th Report have been referred to the State Governments for their comments. A final view will be taken by the Government after examining the views of the State Governments."

**2.14 The Committee regret to note the delay of about four years in taking a decision about the formation of an All India Judicial Service and to implement the assurance. The matter needs to be taken up with the State Governments at the highest level to expedite their views in the matter. The Committee recommend that the Ministry should lay on the Table of the House the views of such States as have already been sent and in respect of remaining States, steps taken by the Ministry to elicit their views expeditiously.**

**(iii)**

*Kudal Commission on Gandhi Peace Foundation*

2.15 On 23 July, 1986, Shri H.M. Patel asked the following Starred Question (No. 86) to the Minister of Home Affairs regarding Kudal Commission on Gandhi Peace Foundation :

"(a) whether the Kudal Commission inquiring into the affairs of the Gandhi Peace Foundation and other organisations has presented its fifth interim report to Government ;

(b) if so, what are the main conclusions of the Kudal Commission in its Fifth interim report ;

(c) whether the Kudal Commission has been consistently giving interim reports for the past several years : and

(d) whether Government proposed to take final decision to wind up the Kudal Commission and if so, when :"

2.16 The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Buta Singh) replied to the above question as follows :—

"(a), (b), (c) and (d). Kudal Commission has so far presented five interim reports to the Government. First interim report was laid on the Table of the House on 4th December, 1985 and the Second and Third on 7 May, 1986. Fourth and Fifth interim reports are under consideration of the Government. No decision about winding up of the Kudal Commission has been taken."

2.17 The reply of the Minister was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by 22 October, 1986. The assurance however, remained unfulfilled and the Ministry sought extensions of time for implementing it. The last request for extension of time sought was upto 23 January, 1988 on the following grounds :—

"The Fifth Interim Report of the Kudal Commission is still under consideration of the Government."

2.18 The Committee considered the above request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 12 February, 1988 and granted the extension of time upto 23.1.88.

2.19 The assurance, however, remained unimplemented and the Ministry sought further extensions of time. The last request for extension of time upto 23 July, 1989 was on the following grounds :

"The 5th interim report of the Kudal Commission is still under process."

**2.20 The Committee see no justification for the delay of about four years in taking a decision on the Report of the Kudal Commission. They recommend that the Ministry should expedite the decision on the Report and implement the assurance without further loss of time.**

## CHAPTER III

## REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO SEVENTH AND EIGHTH LOK SABHA

During the Seventh Lok Sabha, 7,231 assurances were culled out from Lok Sabha Debates for implementation by Government. Of these, 7,224 assurances have since been implemented, leaving a balance of 7 assurances to be implemented.

3.2 During the First to Twelfth Sessions of Eighth Lok Sabha, 7,283 assurances were culled out. Out of them, 5,948 have since been implemented, thus leaving a balance of 1,335 assurances pending implementation.

3.3 The above figures take into account the latest statements of implemented assurances laid on the Table of Lok Sabha by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on 9 May, 1989.

3.4 A statement showing Session-wise the position of assurances pertaining to Seventh and Eight Lok Sabha pending implementation by the Government, is given in *Appendix-II*.

**3.5 The Committee would like the Ministries/Departments concerned to make a critical analysis of these assurances so as to implement them without further loss of time.**

NEW DELHI ;
*6 July, 1989*
*15 Asadha, 1911 (Saka)*

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR
*Chairman*
*Committee on Government Assurances.*

## APPENDIX I

*(Vide Para 1.1 of the Report)*

*Dalli of requests for dropping of assurances*

(I)

*Balladila-Dalli-Rajhara Railway line*

On 19 November, 1987, Shri Manku Ram Sodi, M.P. referring to the reply to USQ. No. 5357 on 2 April, 1987 regarding Dalli-Rajhara-Jagdalpur Railway line addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 1972 to the Minister of Railways :

> "(a) whether all formalities have been completed in regard to the construction of long awaited Balladila-Dalli-Rajhara railway line in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh which is predominantly inhabited by tribals ; and
>
> (b) if so, whether Government propose to start the construction work of the aforesaid railway line under the drought relief scheme ?

2. In reply to the above question, the Minister of Railway (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) stated as follows :

> "(a) & (b) : Reappraisal survey for Dalli-Rajhara-Jagdalpur new BG line has been completed and report has just been received. Further action will be taken after examination of the Survey Report, in consultation with Ministry of Steel and the Planning Commission."

3. The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways by 19 February, 1988.

4. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. IX/Rly. (30) USQ. 1972-LS/87 dated 30 March, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Railways for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The Planning Commission has yet to take decision on the question of new broad gauge line from Dalli-Rajhara to Jagdalpur. This project has not been sponsored by this Ministry. This project has been started at the request of SAIL. They had agreed to finance for it and had requested the Planning 'Commission to provide necessary budgetary assistance for the proposed railway line. On their behalf the Railways have completed the reassessment survey for the proposed new broad gauge line. Now a study of the environmental effects is being conducted to obtain clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests in this respect. The Planning Commission is awaiting the decision to be taken by the Ministry of Steel and Mines and SAIL with regard to the mines from where iron ore is to be carried for Bhilai Steel Plant. Therefore, the decision with regard to the starting of the work of laying new broad gauge line is beyond the control of this Ministry and it is not known when the concerned parties will take final decision in this matter and when it will be implemented.

Under these circumstances, it is not possible to fix any time limit with regard to the decision to be taken for the laying of new Dalli-Rajhara-Jagdalpur broad gauge line."

5. The Committee at their sitting held on 29 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. Extension of time to implement the assurance upto 30 June, 1989 was granted. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

6. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(ii)

*Research in Vedic mathematics about its utility for computer calculations*

7. On 26 November, 1987, the following Starred Question No. 291 given notice of by Dr. A.K. Patel, M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Human Resource Development :—

"(a) whether Government have seen press reports (Times of India dated 3 September, 1987) that in Britain. Researchers have found that Vedic mathematics has been found very useful in checking results of computer calculations and is opening new vistas in other fields also ;

(b) if so, the researches made till now in India and being proceeded further relating to Vedic Mathematics and its applications ; and

(c) the names of such projects and Government's efforts to encourage them ?"

8. In reply to the above question, the Minister of State in the Departments of Education and Culture (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) stated as follows :—

"(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) : Some scholars in India are known to be engaged in the study and propagation of vedic Mathematics. The Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan which has recently been set up, is considering the preparation of a project to encourage Vedic mathematics and its application to computer calculation."

9. The above reply to parts (b) and (c) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development by 26 February, 1988.

10. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. IX/HRD (II) SQ. 291-LS/87, dated 6 March, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

"The nature of the work for implementing what has now been construed as an assurance is of a type that cannot be fulfilled within a short period. Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan to whom this work has been entrusted, has informed that no final reply can be given at this stage to the queries in relation to Vedic Mathematics because this will require a detailed study of the applicability and afficacy of each Sutra for solving various problems not only in Arithamatic but also in Geometary, Algebra, Calculus, Trignometary and so on. We have also to ascertain the mathematical principales, if any, underlying

Vedic Mathematics. They have further stated that they are trying to obtain a copy of the manuscript of Vedic Mathematics stated to have been written by Shri Shankaracharya, Bharati Krishnan Tirthji. Thereafter, they will have to see if there are any clues in this manuscript which would enable the scholars to reconstruct the volumes which are stated to have been lost. No specific time limit could be fixed in regard to this as work involved partakes of the nature of research."

11. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance and desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be necessary for fulfilling the assurance. The decision of the Committee was convyed to the Ministry accordingly.

12. The Ministry have not sought further extension of time for fulfilling the assurance and the assurance is yet to be implemented.

(iii)

*Regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi*

13. On 21 March, 1988, the following Starred Question No. 370 given notice of by Shri Bharat Singh, M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Urban Development :—

"(a) whether out of 612 unauthorised colonies, list of which was prepared in 1977, 49 colonies have still not been regularised ;

(b) if so, the time by which these colonies would be regularised ;

(c) whether the facility of electricity and water is being provided to the unauthorised colonies which came into existence upto 1981 ;

(d) whether the main roads in these colonies would also be metalled ; and

(e) if so, the time by which it would be done ?"

14. In reply to the above question, the Minister of State in the Minister Urban Development (Shri Dalbir Singh) stated as follow :

(a) & (b) A list of 607 colonies was prepared by MCD and DDA in 1977 after a physical survey of the unauthorised colonies. Out of these, 56 colonies do not qualify for regularisation as per the decision of the Technical Committee.

(c) DESU is entertaining requests for electrification subject to certification of entitlement of unauthorised colonies which came up upto 1st January, 1981 by the Town Planner, M.C.D. Water supply of facilities are not provided in unauthorised colonies.

(d) There is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise."

15. The above reply to part (c) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development by 21 June, 1988.

16. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. X/UD (98) SQ 370-LS/88 dated 16 February, 1989, have forwarded request of the Ministry of Urban Development for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

"On scrutiny of the English version of the reply it is seen that it was not the intention of the Ministry to give such an assurance as indicated in the statement received from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. In fact, the English version of the reply was not correctly translated in Hindi which has resulted the reply being treated as an assurance. The reply has now been translated correctly in Hindi as enclosed. It is, therefore, requested that the reply to this part of the question may not be treated as an assurance."

17. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

18. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time for fulfilling the assurance.

19. The assurance to is yet to be implemented.

(iv)

*Surplus Railway land in Murshidabad District*

20. On 12 May, 1988 the following Unstarred Question No. (10669) given notice of by Shri Zainal Abedin. M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Railways :

"(a) the quantum of Railway land at Kodalkati Mouza under Lalgola Police Station in Murshidabad district (West Bengal) declared surplus of Railways' requirements ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the entire land declared surplus is under unauthorised occupation ;

(c) if so, the steps taken for its relinquishment ;

(d) whether his Ministry purpose to transfer the land to the State Government ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?"

21. In reply to the above question, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) stated as follows :

"(a) 56.01 Acres.

(b) About fifty per cent of the land is under encroachment by outsiders.

(c), (d) & (e) Relinquishment proposal of the said land was sent to the State Government in the year 1961 with relevant documents. State Government's decision in the matter is still awaited.

22. The above reply to parts (c), (d) & (e) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways by 12 August, 1988.

23. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. X/Rly. (52) USQ 10669-LS/88 dated 2 May, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Railways for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

"The reply given in parts (c) to (e) of the above question was that the relinquishment proposal of the said land was sent to the State Government in the year 1961 with relevant documents and State Government's decision in the matter is still awaited. These are the facts of the case which cannot be altered. This Ministry's reply in the "when and how fulfilled column" of the assurance format will remain the same as given in reply of the question even if the assurance is shown to be implemented."

24. The Committee at their sitting held on 29 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee also decided that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to fulfil the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

25. The Ministry has not sought extension of time beyond 30 April, 1989 to fulfil the assurance. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(v)

*Banaspani—Jakhpur Railway line*

26. On 5 September, 1988 the following Starred Question No. 471 given notice of by S/Shri Harihar Soren and Chintamani Jena M.Ps was addressed to the Minister of Railways :—

"(a) Whether the State Government of Orissa has agreed to bear all the expenditure required for purchase/acquisition of land for the second phase of Banspani-Jakhpura Railway route ;

(b) whether some iron ore importing countries have proposed to finance this project ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) when the work on this project is proposed to be taken up ?"

27. In reply to the above question, the Minister of State of the Ministry of Railways (Shri Madhavrao Scindia) stated as follows :

"(a) : Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) : Construction of Daitari-Banspani rail link is being considered as a part of the Iron Ore Export Project *via* Paradip Port to South Korea. The financial arrangements are yet to be finalised.

(d) : Does not arise at this stage."

28. The above reply to parts (b) and (c) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways by 5 December, 1988.

29. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O Note No. XI/Rly. (25) SQ 471-LS/88 dated 2 February, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Railways for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"Construction of the Jakhapura-Banspani rail link (176 km) was approved in 1974-75 and construction of Phase-I from Jakhapura to Daitari (33 km.) was taken up and completed in 1981. However, after opening of the Jakhapura-Daitari section, the anticipated traffic of iron ore from Daitari mines did not materialise. The consequence thereof and also due to the severe constraint of resources, construction of the balance portion from Daitari to Banspani could not be taken up.

Construction of Daitari-Banspani section is now estimated to cost about Rs. 115 crores. In view of the continuing resource constraints, it may be difficult to take up construction of this section in the railway sector.

In the mean time, a proposal was mooted by M/s. Hyundai Corporation of South Korea, through the minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, for development of Paradip Port with requiste facilities, in order to enable the Port to export 6 million tonnes of iron ore annually. The proposal also envisages development of iron ore mines and construction of a new railway line between Daitari and Banspani.

Detailed Project Report for the whole scheme is yet to be prepaired. The work of preparation of Detailed Project Report in respect of

Port Development segment has been entrusted to M/s. Hyundai Corporation. Detailed Project Report for the development of mines is being prepared by the Government of Orissa. For the railway line, the Detailed Project Reports in respect of the various segments of the scheme are also required to cover the environmental aspects, for which exhaustive data is to be collected and furnished to the Ministry of Environment and Forests for getting Environmental clearance before starting the project. The South Eastern Railway is already on the job to make out a Rapid Assessment Report for getting the environmental clearance.

After getting environmental clearance, the Government would consider the report for an investment decision, including financial arrangements. Further action regarding construction of Daitari-Banspani rail link can be taken only after the Ministry of Surface Transport finalises the Iron export Project, including the financial arrangements for funding of the rail link project. This is likely to be a long drawn out process and it will not be possible to fix any time limit for taking the decision."

30 The Committee at their sitting held on 29 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. Extension of time to fulfil the assurance up to 30 June, 1989 was granted. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

31. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(iv)

*N.U.J. demand for revision of tentative proposals made by Bachawat Wage Board*

32. On 2 November, 1988 the following Unstarred Question (No. 41) given notice of by S/Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad, M.V. Chandrasekhara Murthy and C. Janga Reddy, M.Ps was addressed to the Minister of Labour :

"(a) whether the National Union of Journalists (India) has demanded drastic revision of the tentative proposals made by the Bachawat Wage Boards for working journalists and non-working journalist newspaper employees ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto."

33. In reply to the above question, the Minister of Labour (Shri Bindeshwari Dubey) stated as follows :—

> "(a) and (b) : The proposals as announced by the Wage Boards are only tentative and the Wage Boards have called for the comments of all concerned. The National Union of Journalists (India) have furnished their comments to the Wage Boards. The Government with consider necessary action on the final recommendation of the Wage Boards."

34 The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Labour by 2 February, 1989.

35 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affiars *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/L (I) USQ 41-LS/88 dated 23 January, 1988 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Labour for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

> "The answer given to the above mentioned Parliamentary Question does not tentamount to an Assurance as the Wage Boards for working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees have called for the comments on the tentative proposals published by them from the concerned parties. This is an internal matter of the Wage Boards to invite the comments on the tentative proposals framed by them so as to give a fair chance to all concerned to make submissions before submitting final recommendations. The Government will come into the picture only when the Wage Boards submits its recommendations. It is not under the purview of the Government to consider the comments to of the National Union of Journalists (I) furnished to the Wage Boards on the tentative proposals formulated by them."

36. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

37. The Ministry have sought extension of time to fulfil the assurance upto 2 August, 1989 on the following grounds :

"The wage board has not submitted its final recommendations, hence the required information to fulfil the assurance is not available with the Ministry. As such it will take more time to collect the information on the assurance."

The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(vii)

*Third Railway line in Bilaspur division and doubling of Bilaspur-Katni Railway line*

38. On 4 November, 1988 the following Starred Question (No. 51) given notice of by Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Railways :

"(a) whether there is a proposal to lay third railway line in Bilaspur Division, Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, on which route the line will be constructed ;

(c) whether the work on laying double railway line between Bilaspur and Katni is on going ; and

(d) if so, the present stage thereof and the time by which it will be completed ?"

39. In reply to the above question, the Depty Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Mahabir Prasad) stated as follows :

"(a) and (b) Various alternative proposals are under examination for provision of such a line to cope with the anticipated growth of freight traffic on the trunk route."

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise."

40. The above reply to part (a) and (b) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways by 4 February, 1989.

41. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/Rly. (1) SQ 51-LS/88 dated 2 February, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Railways for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

> "Survey for optimisation of line capacity of Durg-Champa-Jharsuguda section was carried out in 1987-88. Various alternatives such as automatic signailing were to be studied alongwith the survey for a new line and an interim survey Report on augmentation of line capacity of Jharsuguda-Durg-section has been submitted by the South Eastern Railway. The Jharsuguda-Durg section is a double line electrified section (355 km) on Howrah-Bombay trunk route. The survey has suggested various alternative proposals for augmenting line capacity such as, automatic signalling and provision of 3rd line. The financial implications of the proposals varies from Rs. 250 crores to Rs. 355 crores. As the Railways are facing severe constraint of resources on already approved schemes, the Railway has been advised to compare the line capacity alternatives by the "cost minimisation approach" i.e. by working out the least cost option and also conducting a sensitivity analysis with/without expected heavier trains. After receipt of the report from the Railway the same will be examined in the Railway Board's Office, keeping in view the anticipated growth of freight traffic on this trunk route and also its remunerativness and financial viability. A decision on the alternative proposals is, therefore, likely to take sometime and it will not be possible to fix any time limit for taking a decision."

42. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

43. The Ministry has sought extension of time upto 30 June, 1989 to fulfil the assurance on the following grounds :

> "Request of the Ministry for dropping of the assurance is pending with the Lok Sabha Secretariat for consideration by the Committee on Government Assurances."

The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(viii)

*Recommendations made by the Central Advisory Board*

44. On 17 November, 1988 the following Unstarred Question No. 1032 given notice or by Shri Kali Prasad Pandey, M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Human Resource Development :

"(a) whether Education Management Committee of the Central Edvisory Board of Education has suggested to State Education Advisory Boards to Constitute a Composite Board consisting of fifty members:

(b) the details of other recommendations made by the Education Management Committee and the date by which those recommendations will be implemented ; and

(c) the criteria laid down in respect of qualifications of members of the proposed Committee/Board ?"

45. In reply to the above question, the Minister of State in the Departments of Education and Culture in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Shri L.P. Sahi) stated as follows :

"(a) the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee on Management of Education has proposed that the State Advisory Board (SABE) should be a compact body of about 50 members.

(b) and (c) The Committee have suggested that the Board should have representation from the State Education and other Development Departments, various State level educational advisory bodies, educationists, Vice Chancellors, teachers' organisations, District Boards of Education, State Legislature etc. The Chief Minister will be the Chairman of the Board. Education Minister(s) will be one or more Vice-Chairman and the State Education Secratary will be its Member-Secretary.

According to the Committee, the Board would appraise and evaluate the direction of educational development and advise the state educational administration and suggest modalities about making the educational system work more effectively.

The Committee have also suggested setting up of District Boards of Education vested with functions of the District level educational planning and administration. There will be a Chief Educational Officer for the District to look after all levels of education.

In accordance with the provision in the Programme of Action, the Committee have also recommended the Constitution of the Village Education Committees comprising not more than 15 members representing parents, panchayat, Cooperatives, women SC/ST etc.

The recommendations of the Committee on Management are yet to be considered by the Centrai Advisory Board of Education and further action will be taken by the State Governments, in the light of the final recommendations that may be made by the Central Advisory Board in the matter."

46. The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development by 17 February, 1989.

47. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their O.M. No. XII/HRD(ii) USQ 1032-LS/88 dated 6 March, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"While giving reply, this Ministry had intended to convey the factual position and the procedural requirement for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on Management of Education. There is no element of any assurance in this reply. The recommendations of the Committee on Management of Education, after approval by the Central Advisory Board of Education, are to be implemented by the State Governments, if they accept the same. The recommendations of the Committee are in the nature of broad guidelines for adoption by the State Government, and there is no compulsion on the part of the State Governments to implement them. In these circumstances, Government are not in a position to give any assurance about the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee."

48. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee further desired that the Ministry should seek extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to fulfil the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

49. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the the assurance. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(ix)

*Availability of technical manpower*

50. On 21 November, 1988 the following Unstarred Question (No. 1398) given notice of by Shri Bhattam Sriramamurthy, M.P. was addressed to the Minister of Planning :—

'(a) whether any strategic data is available regarding requirement, actual availability of technical manpower in the country ;

(b) the prospects open to them in private sector, public sector and cooperative sectors in the years 1986—1990 ;

(c) whether any survey was conducted in various States to assess the requirements in the existing industrial establishments and their future requirements on the basis of projected growth and development :

(b) whether any figures are available separately in respect of various industries iike cement, chemical and textiles etc. ; and

(e) the projected requirement of technical hands of different categories in small scale sector medium sector and major industrial sectors ?"

51. In reply to the above question. the Minister of Planning (Shri Madhavsinh Solanki) stated as follows :

"(a) An attempt has been made by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) to estimate the stock of different categories of engineering and technical manpower in a study entitled "Estimates of Stock of Different Categories of Educated Manpower upto 2001".

This report provides estimates of stock of degree and diploma holders in engineering for the period 1981 to 2001 by discipline such as Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical, Eleetronics, Telecommunications, Mining, Metrological and others. However this report does not provide an estimate of requirements of technical manpower.

(b) No information is available.

(c) and (d) Under the programme of National Technical Manpower Information System, data are being collected by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) from the industrial establishments in the private, public and cooperative sectors regarding the utilisation pattern of engineering and technical manpower at the degree and diploma levels in various States. Exercises on Projections have not yet been made for the country, as a whole. However, the Directorate of Employment, Government of Rajasthan, have made an estimate of the requirement of technical manpower during 1986 to 1990 in respect of Cement, Ceramic and Mineral based industry, Engineering Industry, Chemical industry, Textile industry, Electronics industry and other industries in their Report entitled 'Technical Manpower Requirement in Rajasthan (1986 to 1990)".

(e) No information is available.

52. The above reply to parts (c) and (d) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Planning by 21 February, 1989.

53. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/P (5) USQ. 1398-LS/88 dated *14 March*, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Planning for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The reply given by the Minister of Planning, to the above mentioned Question contained the full foctual information as on due date. It was only conveyed that the IAMR *collects the data* from industrial establishments in the private, public and cooperative sector regarding utilisation pattern of engineering and technical manpower at the degree and diploma levels in various States on a *continuing basis*. There was no intention to imply that the data was being

collected regarding utilisation pattern of engineering and technical manpower. It was a mere statement of facts. Hence there was no assurance in this regard."

54. The Committee at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance The Committee also desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be minimum necessary for fulfilling the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

55 The Ministry have not sought extension of time to implement the assurance. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(x)

*Rail Link with Pakistan*

56. On 25 November, 1988, Shri Amar Sinh Rathawa, M P. addressed the following Starred Question No. 207 to the Minister of Railways :

"(a) the rail link obtaining between India and Pakistan at present ;

(b) the number of trains across the border in a day ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce second railway link between the two countries ;

(d) if so, whether an Indian delegation visited Islamabad for talks on the said proposal a few years back ;

(e) if so, when and the progress made so far in this regard ; and

(f) the details of the rail line suggested ?"

57. In reply to the above question, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Mahabir Prasad) laid a statement on the Table of the House which stated as follows ;

"(a) Presently only rail link for interchange of rail traffic between India and Pakistan is via Attari-Wagah.

(b) Normally one passenger train per day is run each way. According to materialization of traffic goods trains are also run as and when required.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d), (e) and (f) An Indian delegation visited Islamabad from 29th to 31st July, 1986 and a draft agreement on the resumption of rail communication between India aud Pakistan via Munabao Khokrapar route was drawn out. While we have indicated our villingness, an appropriate response from Pakistan is awaited."

58. The above reply to parts (d) to (f) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Railways by 25 February, 1989.

59. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/Rly (11) SQ. 207-LS/88 dated 3 April, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Railways for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"In this connection, it may be mentioned that only the factual information has been furnished, that the question was under discussion between the two Governments i.e. Government of India and Government of Pakistan and no appropriate response from Pakistan Government has been received. These are the international matters and a response may or may not come at all on this subject. Therefore, we do not know when the Government of Pakistan will react in the matter or they may not like to pursue the matter further."

60. The Committee at their sitting held on 30 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee also desired that the Ministry should seek extension of time upto a specific period considered to be minimum necessary for implementation of the assurance.

61. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

The assurance is yet to be implemented.

(xi)

*Swan Channelisation Project of Himachal Pradesh*

62. On 25 November, 1988, Prof. Narain Chand Parashar, M.P. addressed the following Starred Question No. 224 to the Minister of Water Resources :

"(a) whether a demand was made to the Prime Minister during his visit to Una in Himachal Pradesh on 14 October, 1988 regarding the early sanction and construction of Swan Channelisation Project to harness the river Swan and its 76 tributaries so as to find a permanent solution to floods and soil erosion and also to ensure reclamation of thousands of hectares of land in this region ;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken on this demand to expedite the sanction and take up the construction of the project in consultation with the State Government and the Central Water Commission ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely dates by which any action would be initiated, sanction given and the project taken up for construction ?"

63. In reply to the above question, the Minister of Law and Justice and Water Resources (Shri B. Shankaranand) stated as follows :

(a) to (c) A demand was received for early sanction of Swan Channelisation Project. Earlier in May, 1984 an outline proposal for integrated area development project including channelisation of Swan Nadi was received. In July, 1984, the State Government was requested to submit a detailed project report as per the guidelines, but it has not been received so far. They have been reminded."

64. The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources by 25 February, 1989.

65 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/WR (4) SQ. 224-LS/88 dated 28 March, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Water Resources for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"In the reply furnished to the Parliament Question the words "A demand was received for early sanction of Swan Channelisation Project. Earlier in May, 1984, an outline proposal for integrated area development project including channelisation of Swan Nadi was received. In July, 1984 the State Govt was requested to submit a detailed project report as per the guidlines but it has not been received so far. They have been reminded" were not used in the

sense of intimating at a later date, the likely date by which the project will be cleared.

Flood Management is a State Subject. It is the State Govt. which has to decide the intense priority of any Flood Management Scheme among other schemes.

The drill involved in clearing the project is that the scheme after receipt from the State Govt. has to be examined by the Central Water Commission. Any subsequent clarifications have to be furnished by State Govt. before it is cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources. Ultimately, the Planning Commission has to approve the scheme for investment.

The time taken for clearance of a scheme depends mainly upon the initiative of the concerned State Govt."

66. The Committee at their sitting held on 30 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee also desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to implement the assurance. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

67. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

**(xii)**

*Survey about persons below poverty line*

68. On 5 December, 1988, Shri C. Janga Reddy, M.P. addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 3937 to the Minister of Planning :—

"(a) whether the estimates of persons below poverty line are prepared on the basis of the National Sample Survey data on household consumer expenditure ;

(b) whether this survey has not been held since 1983-84, if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) the methodology of monitoring the increase and decrease in the estimates of persons below poverty line due to decline in the value of rupee ; and

(d) whether Government have estimated the present number of persons below poverty line by any other methodology, if so, the details of the findings ?"

69. In reply to the above question, the Minister of Planning (Shri madhav Sinh Solanki) stated as follows :

"(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The household consumer expenditure survey has been carried out under quinquennial work programme, by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) i e., once in every five years. The third quinquennial survey was carried out in 1983. The fourth quinquennial survey on househole consumer expenditure has been conducted in 43rd round of NSSO (July, 1987—June, 1988) the results of which would be available in due course. From 42nd round (1986-87) on wards NSSO has decided to carry out the enquiry in every NSS round in a thin sample in addition to the quinquennial large scale surveys.

(c) The Private Consumption expenditure deflator of National Accounts Statistics published by Central Statistical Organisation has been used to update the poverty line, in order to take into account the general decline in the value of the rupee.

(d) Based on the results of the thin sample survey of NSS 42nd round, number of persons below poverty line are being estimated."

70. The above reply to part (d) of the question was treated as an assurance by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The assurance was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Planning by 5 March, 1989.

71. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/P (3) USQ. 3337-LS/88 dated 31 March, 1989 have forwarded request of the Ministry of Planning for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The reply given to the question under reference does not appear to be an assurance as it is a mere statement of facts showing how the number of people below poverty line is estimated. The Minister of Planning, therefore, desired that the Committee on Govt. Assurances may be requested to drop this as an assurance."

72. The Committee at their sitting held on 30 May, 1989 considered the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The extension of time upto the first day of Monsoon Session was granted to implement the assurance. The decisson of the Committee was conveyed to the Ministry accordingly.

73. The assurance is yet to be implemented.

## APPENDIX II

(*Vide* para No. 3.4 of the Report)

(*i*) *Statement showing the position of the assurances of Seventh Lok Sabha pending implementation as on 9 may, 1989.*

| Session | No. of Assurances culled out | No. of assurances implemented/ dropped | No. of Assurances Outstanding |
|---|---|---|---|
| First Session, 1980 | 26 | 26 | — |
| Second Session, 1980 | 196 | 196 | — |
| Third Session, 1980 | 548 | 548 | — |
| Fourth Session, 1980 | 333 | 333 | — |
| Fifth Session, 1981 | 793 | 793 | — |
| Sixth Session, 1981 | 373 | 372 | 1 |
| Seventh Session, 1981 | 418 | 418 | — |
| Eighth Session, 1982 | 798 | 798 | — |
| Ninth Session, 1982 | 429 | 429 | — |
| Tenth Session, 1982 | 315 | 315 | — |
| Eleventh Session, 1983 | 861 | 861 | — |
| Twelfth Session, 1983 | 433 | 433 | — |
| Thirteenth Session, 1983 | 424 | 424 | — |
| Fourteenth Session, 1984 | 956 | 952 | 4 |
| Fifteenth Session, 1984 | 328 | 326 | 2 |
| Total | 7231 | 7224 | 7 |

## APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

(*Vide* Para No. 3.4 of the Report)

(*ii*) *Statement showing the position of pending assurances of Eighth Lok Sabha pending implementation as on 9 May, 1989.*

| Session | No. of assurances culled out | No. of assurances implemented/ dropped | No. of assurances outstanding |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st Session | 19 | 19 | — |
| 2nd Session | 430 | 430 | — |
| 3rd Session | 323 | 321 | 2 |
| 4th Session | 358 | 353 | 5 |
| 5th Session | 783 | 760 | 23 |
| 6th Session | 479 | 461 | 18 |
| 7th Session | 431 | 410 | 21 |
| 8th Session | 783 | 739 | 44 |
| 8th (Part-II) Session | 586 | 492 | 94 |
| 9th Session | 781 | 580 | 201 |
| 10th Session | 1197 | 843 | 354 |
| 11th Session | 560 | 341 | 239 |
| 12th Session | 533 | 199 | 334 |
| Total | 7283 | 5948 | 1335 |

# MINUTES

*Minutes of the Eleventh Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on 12 February, 1988 in Committee Room No. 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi*

The Committee met on Friday, 12 February, 1988 from 15.00 hours to 15.35 hours.

## PRESENT

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

2. Shri L. Balaraman
3. Shri Sitaram J. Gavali
4. Shri Abdul Rashid Kabuli
5. Shri Bapulal Malviya
6. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
7. Shri Bhola Raut
8. Shri Prabhu Lal Rawat
9. Shrimati Shanti Devi
10. Shri Kamla Prasad Singh
11. Shrimati Usha Thakkar

## SECRETARIAT

1. Shri C. K. Jain—*Chief (Questions)*
2. Shri Raghbir Singh—*Senior Examiner of Questions*

2. The Committee took up for consideration Memoranda Nos. 122, 123, 124, 125, 126 and 127.

*** *** *** *** **** **** ****

*Memorandum No.* 127 : Review of pending assurances pertaining to Sixth Session of Eighth Lok Sabha.

8. The Committee considered four pending assurances given during Sixth Session of the Eighth Lok Sabha by various Ministries in reply to Unstarred Question Nos. 269/18.7.86, 623/22.7.86, 724/23.7.86 and SQ 86/23.7.86 (*vide* Annexure)

8.1 The observation of the Committee in respect of the above mentioned assurances are given below :—

| Sl. No | Question No. and date | Observations |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | USQ. 269/18.7.86 | Extension of time upto 18.1.88 as requested by the Ministry of Finance was granted. |
| 2. | USQ. No. 623/22.7.86 | Extension of time upto 21.4.88 as requested by the Ministry of Law and Justice was granted |
| 3. | USQ. No. 724/23.7.86 | Extension of time upto 22.1.88 as requested by the Ministry of Welfare was granted. |
| 4. | SQ. No. 86/23.7.86 | Extension of time upto 23.1.88 as requested by the Ministry of Home Affairs was granted. |

9. The Committee desired that the concerned Ministries should implement the assurances by the time upto which extensions had been sought.

10. The Committee then adjourned.

## *ANNEXURE*

### EIGHTH LOK SABHA

| S. No. | Question No. and Date | Text of the Question | Assurance given | Extension Sought on | Extension Sought upto | Reason |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| CATEGORY A | | MINISTRY OF FINANCE | | | | |
| 1. | Unstarred Question No. 269 dated 18.7.86 by Sarvashri K.V. Shankara Gowda, Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil, Dr. B.L. Shailesh, Dr. Datta Samant. | (a) whether Government have decided to re-examine the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to remove an-necessary procedural complications and to make it more reasonable and to plug the loopholes for evasion ;<br><br>(b) if so, the details thereof ; and | (a) and (b) Proposals for amendment of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act are being examined by the Government.<br><br>(c) The Government have appointed two working Groups, one to review the Gold Control Policy in all its aspects and other to review the Gold Control Machinery, etc. in | 15.10.86<br>23,1.87<br>23.4.87<br>15.7.87<br>20.11.87 | 18.1.87<br>18.4'87<br>18.7.87<br>18.10.87<br>18.1.88 | The material fulfil the assurance is still awaited from the concerned Department. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | (c) whether Government hnve also taken a final decision to review the Gold Control Act and if so, the changes proposed to be made in the Act ? | May, 1986. The Question of review of the Gold Control Act would arise only after submission of the reports of the working Groups to the Government. | | | |
| CATEGORY A | | MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE | | | | |
| 2, | Unstarred Question No. 623 dated 22.7.86 by Shri Syed Shahabuddin : | (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the plea of the All India Judges Association for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service ; and<br><br>(b) if so, the present position regarding the constitution of such a service ? | (a) No, Sir.<br><br>(b) However, the matter is under consideration of the Government and it is not possible to indicate any definite date. | 22.10.87<br>22.1.88 | 21.1.88<br>21.4.88 | The Government is engaged processing the report submitted by the Law Commission regarding formation of an All India Judicial Service. It is not however possible to indicate the definite date by which a final decision could be taken in the matter. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CATEGORY 'C'** | **MINISTRY OF WELFARE** | | | | |
| 3. Unstarred Question No. 724 dated 23.7.86 by Shri Ananda Pathak | (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tribal families have been displaced on account of execution of development projects in different States ;<br><br>(b) if so, the number of such families, Statewise so affected during the years 1983 to 1986 ;<br><br>(c) whether such displaced families have been rehabilitated with adequate compensation ; and<br><br>(d) if so, the State-wise number of such rehabilitated families and the details thereof ? | (a) to (d) : The required information is being called for from all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and the Central Ministries/Departments. As soon as the same is received, this will be placed on the Table of the House. | 27.10.86<br>4.2.87<br>29.4.87<br>19.8.87<br>24.11.87 | 22.1.87<br>22.4.87<br>22.7.87<br>22.10.87<br>22.1.88 | The required information from all the State Governments has not been received so far. |
| **CATEGORY 'A'** | **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS** | | | | |
| 4. Starred Question No. 86 dated 23.7.86 by Shri H.M. Patel | (a) whether the Kudal Commission inquiring into the affairs of the Gandhi Peace Foundation and other Organisations has presented its fifth interim report to Government ; | (a), (b), (c) and (d) : Kudal Commission has so far presented five interim Reports to the Government. First interm Report was laid on the Table of the House on 4th December, 1985 and | 5.12.86<br>12.2.87<br>30.4.87<br>3.8.87<br>25.11.87 | 23.1.87<br>23.4.87<br>23.7.87<br>23.10.87<br>23.1.88 | The Fifth Interim Report of the Kudal Commission is under consideration of the Government it |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | (b) if so, what are the main conclusions of the Kudal Commission in its Fifth interim report to Government ;<br><br>(c) whether the Kudal Commission has been consistently giving interim reports for the past several years ; and<br><br>(d) whether Government propose to take final decision to wind up the Kudal Commission and if so, when ? | the second and third on 7th May, 1986. Fourth and fifth interim Reports are under consideration of the Government. No decision about winding up of the Kudal Commission has been taken. | | | is not possible to fulfil the assurance at present. |

*CONFIDENTIAL*

## MINUTES

*Minutes of the Tenth Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on 5 April, 1989 in Committee Room No. 63, Parliament House-New Delhi*

The Committee met on Wednesday, 5 April, 1989 from 15.30 hours to 18.15 hours.

### PRESENT

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Bapulal Malviya
3. Dr. A.K. Patel
4. Shri Bhola Raut
5. Shrimati Shanti Devi
6. Shri Kamla Prasad Singh
7. Shri Ramashrary prasad Singh
8. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri C.K. Jain—*Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Gupta—*Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri Jyoti Prasad—*Officer on Special Duty*.

2. The Committee took up for consideration Memoranda Nos. 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194 and 195.

*Memorandnm No.* 189 : Request for dropping of assurance given on 17 November, 1987 in reply to Unstarred Quastion No. 1494 regarding setting up of Thermal Plant near Suratgarh.

3. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Energy received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. IX/Energy (15) USQ-1494-LS/87 dated 16 February, 1988 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

> "The project authorities have to comply with the statutory requirements under Section 29(2) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 regarding publication of the scheme in the Official Gazette/local newspapers for the prescribed period and examination of the representations/objections, if any, received thereon ; till this is completed, the proposal is not considered to have been submitted to the CEA for formal clearance. Before according formal clearance, various aspects like availability of water, adequacy of land for ash disposal system, coal linkage and suitability of the site for a power plant, including its approach from the point of view of means of transportation, including railways need to be satisfactorily tied up. The scheme has also to be examined with reference to the available transmission systems for evacuation of power, its impact on the environment of the surrounding areas and clearance of the Department of Civil Aviation for building high structures. Compliance of all these steps can be a long-drawn process and the tying up of inputs and various clearances involves active cooperation of the State authorities. Quite often, techno-economic appraisal of schemes is held up for want of clarifications/clearances from the project authorities on various aspects ; schemes can be accorded techno-economic clearance only after all the inputs have been tied up and necessary clearances have been obtained."

3.1 The request of the Ministry of Energy was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 20 September, 1988.

> "The Committee did not accept the plea of the Ministry for the dropping of the assurance. They desired that a note about the progress made up-to-date in the matter be furnished to the Committee. Meanwhile, the Ministry should submit a request for extension of time."

3.2 On 11 January, 1989, the Ministry submitted a note indicating the progress made in the setting up of a thermal power plant at Suratgarh in Rajasthan (Annexure).

3.3 The Committee considered the position given by the Ministry at their sitting held on 5 April, 1989. Finding the reasons for dropping the assurance, not convincing, the Committee did not agree to drop the assurance. However, extension of time upto 30 April, 1989 as requested by the Ministry for fulfilling the assurance was granted.

*Memorandum No.* 190 : Request for dropping of assurance given on 26 November, 1987 in reply to Starred Question No. 291 regarding research in Vedic mathematics about its utility for computer calculations.

4. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. IX/HRD(11) SQ 291-LS/87 dated 6 March, 1987 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The nature of the work for implementing what has now been construed as an assurance if of a type that cannot be fulfilled within a short period. Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan to whom this work has been entrusted, has informed that no final reply can be given at this stage to the queries in relation to Vedic Mathematics because this will require a detailed study of the applicability and efficacy of each Sutra for solving various problems not only in Arithamatic but also in Geometry, Algebra, Calculus, Trignometry and so on. We have also to ascertain the mathematical principles, if any, underlying Vedic Mathematics. They have further stated that they are trying to obtain a copy of the manuscript of Vedic Mathematics stated to have been written by Shri Shankaracharya, Bharati Krishnan Tirthji Thereafter, they will have to see if there are any clues in this manuscript which would enable the scholars to reconstruct the volumes which are stated to have been lost. No specific time limit could be fixed in regard to this as work involved partakes of the nature of research."

4.1 The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance and desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be necessary for fulfilling the assurance.

*Memorandum No.* 191 : Request for dropping of assurance given on 21 March, 1988 in reply to Starred Question No. 370 regarding regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi.

5. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Urban Development received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. Note No. X/UD (98) SQ. 370-LS/88 dated 16 February 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

> "On scrutiny of the English version of the reply it is seen that it was not the intention of the Ministry to give such an assurance as indicated in the statement received from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. In fact, the English version of the reply was not correctly translated in Hindi which has resulted the reply being treated as an assurance. The reply being treated as an assurance. The reply has now been translated correctly in Hindi as enclosed. It is, therefore, requested that the reply to this part of the question may not be treated as an assurance."

5.1 The Committee were not convinced with the reasons forwarded by the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance.

*Memorandum No. 192 :* Request for dropping of assurance given on 2 November, 1988 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 41 regarding N.U.J. demand for revision of tentative proposals made by Bhchawat Wage Board.

6. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Labour received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/L (1) USQ. 41-LS/88 dated 23 January, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

> "The answar given to the above mentioned Parliamentary Question does not tentamount to an Assurance as the Wage Boards for working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper Employees have called for the comments on the tentative proposals published by them from the concerned parties. This is an internal matter of the Wage Boards to invite the comments on the tentative proposals framed by them so as to give a fair chance to all concerned to make submissions before submitting final recommendations. The Government will come into the picture only when the Wage Boards submits its recommendations. It is not under the purview of the Government to consider the comments of the National Union of Journalists (I) furnished to the Wage Boards on the tentative proposals formulated by them."

6.1 The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance. Extension of time upto 2 May, 1989 as requested by the Ministry was, however, granted. The Committee also observed that it was for them to decide whether a particular reply was an assurance or not and the Ministry should have reframed from sitting over the judgement in this regard.

*Memorandum No. 193* : Request for dropping of assurance given on 4 November, 1988 in reply to Starred Question No. 51 regarding third Railway line in Bilaspur division and doubling of Bilaspur-Katni Railway line.

7. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Railways received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O Note No. XII/Rly (1) SQ. 51-LS/88 dated 2 February, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

"Survey for optimisation of line capacity of Durg-Champa-Jharsuguda section was carried out in 1987-88. Various alternatives such as automatic signalling were to be studied alongwith the survey for a new line and an interim survey Report on augmentation of line capacity of Jharsuguda-Durg section has been submitted by the South Eastern Railway. The Jharsuguda-Durg section is a double line electrified section (355 Km) on Howrah-Bombay trunk route. The survey has suggested various alternative proposals for augmenting line capacity such as, automatic signalling and provision of 3rd line. The financial implications of the proposals varies from Rs. 250 crores to Rs. 355 crores. As the Railways are facing severe constraint of resources on already appproved schemes, the Railway has been advised to compare the line capacity alternatives by the "cost minimisation approach" i.e. by working out the least cost option and also conducting a sensitivity analysis with/without expected heavier trains. After receipt of the report from the Railway the same will be examined in the Railway Board's Office, keeping in view the anticipated growth of freight traffic on this trunk route and also its remunerativeness and financial viability. A decision on the alternative proposals is, therefore, likely to take sometime and it will not be possible to fix any time limit for taking a decision."

7.1 The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance and desired that the Ministry should seek extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to fulfil the assurance.

*Memorandum No. 194* : Request for dropping of assurance given on 17 November, 1988 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1032 regarding recommendations made by the Central Advisory Board.

8. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. Note No. XII/HRD (11) USQ. 1032-LS/88 dated 6 March, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"While giving reply, this Ministry had intended to convey the factual position and the procedural requirement for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on Management of Education. There is no element of any assurance in this reply. The recommendations of the Committee on Management of Education, after approval by the Central Advisory Board of Education, are to be implemented by the State Governments, if they accept the same. The recommendations of the Committee are in the nature of broad guidelines for adoption by the State Government, and there is no compulsion on the part of the State Governments to implement them. In these circumstances, Government are not in a position to give any assurance about the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee."

8.1 The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance and desired that the relevant Minutes of the meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education may be furnished to them. The Committee further desired that the Ministry should seek extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to fulfil the assurance.

*Memorandum No. 195* : Request for dropping of assurance given on 21 November, 1988 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1398 regarding availability of technical manpower.

9. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Planning received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. Note No. XII/P (5) USQ-1398-LS/88 dated 14 March, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The reply given by the Minister of Planning, to the above mentioned question contained the full factual information as on due date. It was only conveyed that the IAMR *collects the data* from industrial

establishments in the private, public and cooperative sectors regarding utilisation pattern of engineering and technical manpower at the degree and diploma levels in various States on a *continuing basis*. There was no intention to imply that the data was being collected regarding utilisation pattern of engineering and technical manpower. It was a mere statement of facts. Hence there was no assurance in this regard."

9.1 The Committee did not find the plea of the Ministry for the dropping of the assurance convincing and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee also desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be necessary for fulfilling the assurance. The reasons for not seeking further extension of time beyond 21 February, 1989 for fulfilling the assurance should also be intimated to the Committee.

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
(DEPARTMENT OF POWER)

***Subject*** : ***Position note indicating the progress made in the setting up of a thermal power plant at Suratgarh in Rajasthan.***

The Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) had submitted in May, 1984, a project feasibility report for the installation of a 2 210 MW thermal power station at Suratgarh in Sri Ganga Nagar district. Inputs such as, coal linkage availability of water clearances from the Department of Environment, State Pollution Board, Civil Aviation authorities and compliance of Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 were required to be tied up by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board to enable the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) to consider the project for techno-economic appraisal. Accordingly, RSEB was requested to furnish the details/clarifications in respect of the above inputs. Confirmation from the State Government for availability of water from Rajasthan main canal was received in June, 1985. Clearance from the State Pollution Board was received in December, 1985 and from the Department of Environment in July, 1986. The Civil Aviation Department cleared the project in October, 1987. The RSEB informed the CEA in April, 1988 that they had complied with Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

2. The above scheme was considered by the CEA in its 68th meeting held on 4.5.1987 for accord of techno-economic approval, but the clearance to this scheme was deferred as the coal linkage for the proposed station was yet to be established by the Standing Linkage Committee (SLC). Further CEA required certain clarifications in regard to the cooling water arrangements and the location of the site for the proposed power station with reference to the load centres. These clarifications have since been received by the CEA from the RSEB,

3. The local linkage for the proposed Suratgarh TPP has not been established by the Standing Linkage Committee (Long-term) so far. This station has not been included in the list of schemes identified for benefits during the 8th Plan period by the Planning Commission. The matter of coal

linkage for the Suratgarh Project would now be considered by the SLC (Long-term) after the programme of capacity addition for the 9th Plan period is evolved taking into account the projections of power requirements made by the 13th Power Survey Report, availability of coal for the power generation. The Planning Commission have already constituted a Group on coal demand, production and movement of coal in order to assess the coal demand and availability of coal up to the year 2004-05, The question of providing coal linkage for the proposed Suratgarh Station would be examined in the light of the recommendations of the Planning Commission.

4. During the 7th Plan period a capacity addition of 585.3 MW is likely to be made against the target of 385.1 MW as per the details given in the Annexure. During the 8th Plan period it has tentatively been proposed ommission 892.7 MW in Rajasthan as per the details given below :

| | |
|---|---|
| STATE SECTOR : | |
| 1. Kota Unit-5 (Thermal) | 210.0 MW |
| 2. Small Hydels (Hydro) | 7.7 MW |
| CENTRAL SECTOR : | |
| 1. R.A.P.P. Extension (Nuclear) | 235.0 MW |
| 2. Baraingsar (Lignite) TPP | 240.0 MW |
| 3. NTPC Gas Turbine (Th) | 200.0 MW |
| | 892.7 MW |

In addition, the State would get share from the Central Sector projects which are under the various stages of construction in the Northern region.

*ANNEXURE*

*List of projects to be Commissioned during 7th Plan Period in Rajasthan*

| | Name of the Project | Capacity (MW) | Date of Commissioning |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Kota Thermal Power Station (Extn.) | 420 | 9/89 |
| 2. | Ramgarh Gas Turbine Station | 3 | Commissioned |
| 3. | Mahi HE Scheme * | 140 | 3/89 & 8/89 |
| 4. | Mongrol HE Scheme | | 1989-90 |
| 5. | Charanwala HE Scheme | 1.2 | 1989-90 |
| 6. | Suratgarh HE Scheme | 4 | 1989-90 |
| 7. | Anoopgarh HE Scheme | 9 | Commissioned |
| 8. | Pugal HE Scheme | 8.1 | 1989-90 |
| | | 585.3 | |

* 2 units of 25 MW each has already becn commissioned dnring 1985-86.

## MINUTES

*Minutes of the Sixteenth Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on 29 May, 1989 in Committee Room 'D' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.*

The Committee met on Monday, 25 May, 1989 from 15.30 hours to 16.20 hours.

### PRESENT

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri L. Balaraman
3. Shri Bapulal Malviya
4. Dr. A.K. Patel
5. Shri V. Krishna Rao
6. Shri Bhola Raut
7. Shri Prabhu Lal Rawat
8. Shri Manik Reddy
9. Shrimati Shanti Devi
10. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh
11. Shrimati Usha Thakkar
12. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri C.K. Jain—*Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Gupta—*Deputy Secretary.*

2. The Committee considered and adopted draft Nineteenth Report.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration Memoranda Nos. 196, 197 and 198.

*Memorandum No. 196* : Request for dropping of the assurance given on 19 November, 1987, in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1972 regarding Balladila-Dalli-Rajhara Railway line.

4. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Railway received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. IX/Rly (30) USQ. 1972LS/87 dated 30 March, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds : -

"The Planning Commission has yet to take decision on the question of new broad gauge line from Dalli-Rajhara to Jagdalpur. This project has not been sponsored by this Ministry. This project has been started at the request of SAIL. They had agreed to finance for it and had requested the Planning Commission to provide necessary budgetary assistance for the proposed railway line. On their behalf the Railways have completed the reassessment survey for the proposed new broad gauge line. Now a study of the environmental effects is being conducted to obtain clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests in this respect. The Planning Commission is awaiting the decision to be taken by the Ministry of Steel and Mines and SAIL with regard to the mines from where iron ore is to be carried for Bhilai Steel Plant. Therefore, the decision with regard to the starting of the work of laying new broad gauge line is beyond the control of this Ministry and it is not known when the concerned parties will take final decision in this matter and when it will be implemented.

Under these circumstances, it is not possible to fix any time limit with regard to the decision to be taken for the laying of new Dalli Rajhara-Jagdalpur broad gauge line."

5. The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry of Railways and decided not to drop the assurance. Extension of time to fulfil the assurance upto 30 June, 1989 was, however, granted.

*Memorandum No. 197* : Request for the dropping of the assurance given on 12 May, 1988, in reply to Unstarred Question No. 10669 regarding surplus Railway land in Murshidabad District.

6. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Railways received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. X/Rly (52) USQ-10669-LS'88 dated 2 May, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"The reply given in parts (c) to (e) of the above question was that the relinquishment proposal of the said land was sent to the State Government in the year 1961 with relevant documents and State Government's decision in the matter is still awaited. These are the facts of the case which cannot be altered. This Ministry's reply in the "when and how fulfilled column" of the assurance format will remain the same as given in reply of the question even if the assurance is shown to be implemented."

7. The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry of Railways and decided not to drop the assurance Taking note of the fact that the Ministry had sought extension of time for implementation of the assurance only upto 30 April, 1989 the Committee decided that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to be minimum necessary to fulfil the assurance. The Ministry should also furnish a note for the consideration of the Committee indicating the steps taken by them to pursue the matter with the State Government since 1961. The Committee also suggested that the question of taking evidence of the representatives of the Ministry may be considered on receipt of the note from the Ministry.

*Memorandum No. 198* : Request for dropping of the assurance given on 5 September, 1988, in reply to Starred Question No. 471 regarding Banspani-Jakhpura Railway line.

8 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Railways received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U O. Note No. XI/Rly. (25) S Q. 471-LS/88 dated 2 February, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :

"Construction of the Jakhapura—Banspani rail link (176 K.M.) was approved in 1974-75 and construction of phase-I from Jakhapura to Daitari (33 km ) was taken up and completed in 1981. However, after opening of the Jakhapura-Daitari section, the anticipated traffic of iron ore from Daitari mines did not materialise. In consequence thereof and also due to the severe constraint of resources, construction of the balance portion from Daitari to Banaspani could not be taken up.

Construction of Daitari-Banspani section is now estimated to cost about Rs. 115 crores. In view of the continuing resource constraints, it may be difficult to take up construction of this section in the railway sector.

In the meantime, a proposal was mooted by M/s. Hyundai Corporation of South Korea, through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, for development of Paradip Port with requisite facilities, in order to enable the Port to export 6 million tonnes of iron ore annually. The proposals also anvisages development of iron ore mines and construction of a new railway line between Daitari and Banspani.

Detailed Project Report for the whole scheme is yet to be prepared. The work of preparation of Detailed Project Report in respect of Port Development segment has been entrusted to M/s. Hyundi Corporation. Detailed Project Report for the development of Mines is being prepared by the Government of Orissa. For the railway line, the Detailed Project Reports in respect of the various segments of the scheme are also require to cover the environmental aspects, for which exhaustive data is to be collected and furnished to the Ministry of Environment and forests for getting Environmental clearance before starting the project. The South Eastern Railway is already on the job to make out a Rapid Assessment Report for getting the environmental clearance.

After getting environmental clearance, the Government would consider the report for an investment decision, including financial arrangements. Further action regarding construction of Daitari-Banspani rail link can be taken only after the Ministry of Surface Transport finalises the Iron export Project, including the financial arrangements for funding of the rail link project. This is likely to be a long drawn out process and it will not be possible to fix any time limit for taking the decision."

9. The Committee while not agreeing to the request of the Ministry of Railways and decided not to drop the assurance. Extension of time upto 30 June, 1989 was, however, granted.

10. The Committee then adjourned to meet again on 30 May, 1989.

## MINUTES

*Minutes of the Seventeenth Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on 30 May, 1989 in Committee Room 'D' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi*

The Committee met on Tuesday, 30 May, 1989 from 11.00 hours to 11.40 hours.

### PRESENT

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

### MEMBERS

2. Shri L. Balaraman
3. Shri Bapulal Malviya
4. Shri Murlidhar Mane
5. Shri V. Krishna Rao
6. Shri Bhola Raut
7. Shri Prabhu Lal Rawat
8. Shri Manik Redey
9. Shrimati Shanti Devi
10. Shri Kamla Prasad Singh
11. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh
12. Shrimati Usha Thakkar
13. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav

### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri C.K. Jain—*Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Gupta—*Deputy Secretary*

2. The Committe took up for consideration Memoranda Nos. 199, 200 and 201.

*Memorandum No.* 199 : Request for dropping of the assurance given on 25 November, 1988, in reply to Starred Question No. 207 regarding Rail link with Pakistan.

3. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Railways received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/Rly (11) SQ. 207-LS/88 dated 3 April, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

> "In this connection, it may be mentioned that only the factual information has been furnished, that the question was under discussion between the two Governments i.e. Government of India and Government of Pakistan and no appropriate response from Pakistan Government has been received. These are the international matters and a response may or may not come at all on this subject. Therefore, we do not know when the Government of Pakistan will react in the matter or they may not like to pursue the matter further."

4. The Committee did not accede to the request of the Ministry and decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee also took exception to the general request of the Ministry for extension of time for fulfilment of the assurance till the decision of the Committee on their request for dropping of the assurance and desired that the Ministry should seek extension of time upto a specific period considered to be minimum necessary for implementation of the assurance. The Ministry should also furnish a note indicating the initiative taken by them to pursue the matter with the Government of Pakistan.

*Memorandum No.* 200 : Request for dropping of the assurance given on 25 November, 1988, in reply to Starred Question No. 224 regarding Swan Channelisation project of Himachal Pradesh.

5. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Water Resources received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No. XII/WR (4) SQ. 224-LS/88 dated 28 March, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

> "In the reply furnished to the Parliament Question the words. "A demand was received for early sanction of Swan Channelisation Project. Earlier in May, 1984, an outline proposal for integrated area development project including channelisation of Swan Nadi was

received. In July, 1984 the State Government was requested to submit a detailed project report as per the guidelines but it has not been received so far. They have been reminded" were not used in the sense of intimating at a later date, the likely date by which the project will be cleared.

Flood Management is a State Subject. It is the State Government which has to decide the inter-se priority of any Flood Management Scheme among other schemes.

The drill involved in clearing the project is that the scheme after receipt from the State Government has to be examined by the Central Water Commission. Any subsequent clarifications have to be furnished by State Government before it is cleared by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources. Ultimately, the Planning Commission has to approve the scheme for investment.

The time taken for clearance of a scheme depends mainly upon the initiative of the concerned State Government."

6. The Committee, not agreeing to the request of the Ministry, decided not to drop the assurance. They desired that the Ministry should seek further extension of time considered to the minimum necessary to implement the assurance.

*Memorandum No.* 201 : Request for dropping of the assurance given on 5 December, 1988, in reply to Unstarred Question No. 337 regarding survey about persons below poverty line.

7. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Planning received through the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. Note No. XII/P (3) USQ. 3337-LS/88 dated 31 March, 1989 for the dropping of the assurance on the following grounds :—

"The reply given to the question under reference does not appear to be an assurance as it is a mere statement of facts showing how the number of people below poverty line is estimated. The Minister of Planning, therefore, desired that the Committee on Government Assurances may be requested to drop this as an assurance."

8. The Committee did not agree to the request of the Ministry of Planning and decided not to drop the assurance. The extension of time upto the first day of the Mansoon Session was, however, granted to implement the assurance.

*Consideration of Draft Report*

9. The Committee considered and adopted draft Twentieth Report.

10. As the term of the Committee was to end on 31 May, 1989 and this was their last sitting, the Chairman gave an account of the work done by the Committee during the year. He thanked the Members for their whole-hearted cooperation and valuable contribution to the work of the Committee. He also expressed his thanks to the Honourable Speaker for his guidance and to the officers of the Secretariat for their hard work and assistance to the Committee. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav, Member of the Committee speaking on behalf of all Members of the Committee thanked the Chairman for his leadership and to the Secretariat for the assistance rendered to the Committee.

11. The Committee then adjourned.

*CONFIDENTIAL*

## MINUTES

*Minutes of the Second Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on 6 July, 1989 in Committee Room No. 'C' Parliament House Annexxe, ew Delhi*

The Committee met on Thursday, 6 July, 1989 from 11.00 hours to 11.55 hours.

### PRESENT

Prof. Narain Chand Parashar—*Chairman*

### MEMBERS

2. Shri L. Balaraman
3. Shri Kadambur M.R. Janarthanan
4. Shri Bapulal Malviya
5. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
6. Shri Murlidhar Mane
7. Shri V. Krishna Rao
8. Shri Bhola Raut
9. Shri Prabhu Lal Rawat
10. Shri Baju Ban Riyan
11. Shri Kamla Prasad Singh
12. Shrimati Usha Thakkar
13. Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav

### SECRETARIAT

1. Shri C.K. Jain—*Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Gupta—*Deputy Secretary*
3. Shri Jyoti Prasad Jain—*Officer on Special Duty.*

2. The Committee adopted the draft 19th and 20th Reports which were considered and adopted by their predecessor Committee.

3. The Committee then considered and adopted the draft 21st Report with the following modifications :—

(i) Page 3, para 1.4, line 6, for the word 'vague' *substitute* oblique,

(ii) Page 7, para 2.8 *add* at the end the following :—

"The Committee also express their extreme unhappiness on the manner in which the Ministry have been making requests for time extension for long periods, the latest being upto 18 April, 1990, which indicate very cavalier attitude and unrealistic approach to the fulfilment of the commitment given to the House by their Minister".

(iii) Page 9, para 2.14 *for* last sentence *substitute* the following.

"The Committee recommend that the Ministry should lay on the Table of the House the views of such States as have already been sent and in respect of remaining States, steps taken by the Ministry to elicit their views expeditiously".

(iv) Page 12, para 2.20 *add* the following at the end :—
"without further loss of time"

4. The Committee were informed that pursuant to the direction of the Chairman, a review of the assurances pending with the various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India upto the end of December, 1988 (12th Session of present Lok Sabha) was made at meetings taken by the Joint Secretary with the concerned Joint Secretaries in the Ministries/Departments from 21 June, to 4 July, 1989. A senior officer representing the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, which is a coordinating Ministry with other Ministries/ Departments also attended those meetings. Except the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Communications, representatives of all other Ministries Departments of the government attended the meetings. The representatives of the Ministries/Departments were advised to comply with the following guidelines set out by the Committee in regard to assurances :—

(i) Assurances should be implemented at the earliest with the minimum loss of time. With a view to eliminate delays the exercise for fulfilment of the assurances must begin from the day assurance is given by the Minister in the House as reiterated by the Committee in their 18th Report (8th Lok Sabha). The Ministry/Department should not wait for the formal intimation from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to start the exercise.

(ii) Three months period allowed by the Committee should be considered as an outer limit and need not necessarily be taken by Ministries in each and every case.

(iii) In case where Ministries are not able to fulfil the assurance within the stipulated period of three months, they should submit request for extension of time to the Committee on Government Assurances before the expiry of three months period. The period for which extension is sought should be minimum as required for implementation of the assurance, and in no case should be unrealistic and exaggerated.

(iv) Request for the dropping of the Assurance should be made only in rare cases and not on as a routine. While making such request, adequate justifications should be submitted for the consideration of the Committee.

(v) As the prerogative to decide whether or not a particular statement of the Minister constitutes an assurance is of the Committee on Government Assurances, Ministries should not try to sit in judgement once the Committee decides to treat a statement as an assurance. The request for dropping of the assurance should, therefore, be couched in a polite and courteous language.

(vi) To help the process and expeditious implementation of the assurance, the Lok Sabha Secretariat may convene an official level meeting after every session and the Ministry should at all these meetings be represented by one of their senior officers.

(vii) the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs should expeditiously conclude the exercise of culling out assurances and sending necessary intimation to the Ministries/Departments and in no case not later than one week after the expiry of every Session.

(viii) The list of standardised expressions which normally constitute an assurance according to the decision of the Committee on Government Assurances should always be kept in view so that request for the dropping of the assurance is made only in an exceptional case.

5. The Committee then adjourned.